

## THE MINUTES OF THE PUBLIC RECREATION COMMISSION

January 16, 2007

The regular meeting of the Public Recreation Commission was held on January 16, 2007 at 4:00pm at the Mt. Washington Recreation Center with the following members present: Ms. Driehaus and Messrs. Fultz, Moeddel, and Smith with Ms. Driehaus presiding. Staff in attendance: Mmes. Cox, Simmons, Barnes, and Shannon and Messrs. Garges, Bigham, Koopman, Celsor, and LeConey.

### Mt. Washington Community Center Advisory Board Update – John Hudson

Mark Celsor advised that Mr. Hudson is out of town on business and therefore unable to attend the meeting. Mr. Celsor stated that Mr. Hudson wanted to convey his thanks to Mr. Garges for the wonderful work he has done for the Cincinnati Recreation Commission and wish him well in North Carolina. Mr. Garges will really be missed by the communities as well as staff.

### Introduction of Tinisha Brewer – Youth Commission Member

Mary Cox introduced Tinisha Brewer to the Commission and gave a short biography of Ms. Brewer.

Ms. Brewer is a junior at Woodward High School and lives in Westwood. She worked for CRC in 2006 in the REC Employment Corp. Ms. Brewer enjoys writing poems, working with children and speaking with youth to improve their situation. She volunteers at her church in the PSI program (Postponing Sexual Involvement) and volunteers in South Avondale with 7<sup>th</sup> graders for prevention of having babies.

In her essay for her interview she wrote “Working with CRC has made a strong impact on me because I’ve learned how to communicate with younger youth and understand how they see things from their perspective”.

The Commission members welcomed Ms. Brewer.

### MINUTES

Rev. Smith moved, seconded by Mr. Fultz, to approve the minutes of the December 19, 2006 meeting as submitted.

Motion passed.

### BIDS

Rev. Smith moved, seconded by Mr. Fultz, to accept the lowest bid passing SBE, in the amount of \$1,379,775.50, from Langenheim & Thomson Company, for remodeling and additions to the existing Bush Recreation Center. This project will bring the building up to modern codes and will add ADA access to all levels of the building. The project is per plans previously presented to the Commission.

Motion passed.

Mr. Fultz moved, seconded by Rev. Smith, to accept the low bid of \$21,525.00 from Martin Marietta, for the purchase of ball field clay. The ball field clay will be used on the infield of baseball and softball diamonds.

Motion passed.

### CORRESPONDENCE

#### Letter from David Crowley to the Over-the-Rhine Recreation Center

The staff of the Over-the-Rhine Recreation Center received a letter of congratulations from Council Member David Crowley for their response and rescue of Ricky Brown. This item was received for filing.

#### Email from Mark Celsor of the Mt. Washington Community Center

Mr. Garges received an email from Mark Celsor relating an experience that occurred at the Mt. Washington Community Center regarding the tiles in the hallway at the center. This item was received for filing.

#### Email from Jennifer & Ben Naylor

Terry Mongenas received an email from Jennifer & Ben Naylor expressing their thanks for the Miracle League. Ms. Naylor and her son, Ben, really enjoyed playing ball with the Miracle league. This item was received for filing.

#### Letter to Mayor Mallory from Leonard Sternberg

Mayor Mallory received a letter from Leonard Sternberg encouraging the Mayor not to cut the City's arts budget.

## DIRECTOR'S REPORT

### Program Highlight – East Region

Mark Celsor, Service Area Coordinator at the Mt. Washington Community Center, gave a short presentation of a “Year in Review” of the Mt Washington Center. Mark advised that the center has been very active. On Tuesday, January 23<sup>rd</sup>, from 6 – 8pm the center will have its One Year Anniversary Celebration. At 7pm there will be the dedication of the donor plaque to be displayed in the main lobby. There will be light refreshments, children’s crafts, family open gym, TaeKwonDo demonstration, and adult open gym. Commission members received invitations to the celebration.

### Information and Briefing Items

Mr. Garges informed that CRC has received a \$20,000.00 check from the Anthony Munoz Foundation for the NFL Flag Football Program. Andy Danner, Executive Director of the Anthony Munoz Foundation, stated in his letter to Paul Brondhaver that the Anthony Munoz Foundation is proud to partner with Paul and the Cincinnati Recreation Commission in the work that we do in the community and hope that their support will make a difference in our ability to assist those who rely upon our invaluable work and services.

Mr. Garges reported that the Golf Division has had a great year. Revenue is up 4% over last year and rounds are up 2%. For the month of December 2006 the actual revenue and rounds were well over the target budgeted numbers.

On January 25 there will be an open house from 6-8pm at the Mt. Washington Recreation Center to obtain input from the affected neighborhoods, potential users, and other interested people on the Ohio River Bike Trail.

Mr. Garges stated that this will be his final Cincinnati Recreation Commission meeting. His last day with CRC will be Friday, January 26, 2007. Mr. Garges thanked Commission and staff and stated that working with CRC has been a great professional opportunity. Ms. Driehaus stated that on behalf of the Commission, she wanted to let him know how much they appreciate everything he has done for our Department. CRC has got a lot accomplished under Mr. Garges directorship and we wish him well. Rev. Smith told Mr. Garges that he has been a blessing to our city and we hired the best man when we hired him to be our director.

## NEW BUSINESS

### Youth Commission Member

Rev. Smith moved, seconded by Mr. Fultz, to approve the appointment of Tinisha Brewer as the Cincinnati Recreation Commission Youth Commission Member.

Motion passed.

### Field Trips

Mr. Fultz moved, seconded by Rev. Smith, to approve the field trips for various CRC centers and programs as submitted.

Motion passed.

### Laughing Brook Project Contract with the Mill Creek Restoration Project

The Mill Creek Restoration Project (MCRP) desires to install the special project titled "Laughing Brook" at the Salway Park at their cost. They will maintain the project and create a fund for maintenance costs. CRC will provide trash pick up, winterization of the plumbing, mowing adjacent to the property and transfer the balance of the butterfly garden settlement to MCRP, currently \$3,410.00. The term of the agreement is 5 years with 3 renewal periods of 5 years each.

Rev. Smith moved, seconded by Mr. Fultz, to approve the contract between the Mill Creek Restoration Project and CRC for the "Laughing Brook" project.

Motion passed.

## OLD BUSINESS

### Aquatic Master Plan

Mr. Garges suggested that Commission take time to look the Aquatic Master Plan over and schedule a workshop. When a presentation is made to City Council they are going to want to see how it will affect us financially. He believes the next step is to work with the communities. Sometime in February the 2007 Capital Plan should be redone.

Mr. Garges' personal recommendation is to join forces with the Park Board and do a bond issue for funding. The first step will be to get interested citizens together.

### Lifetime Golf Privileges Policy

Mr. Moeddel moved, seconded by Rev. Smith, to approve policy PFO – 23, Lifetime Golf Privileges, as discussed and decided upon at the December 19, 2006 meeting.

Motion passed.

#### EXECUTIVE SESSION

Motion was made that an Executive Session of the Recreation Commission be held pursuant to Section 121.22(G) of the Ohio Revised Code for charges or complaints against employees to consider the dismissal, discipline or demotion of a public employee. Roll call: Ms. Driehaus, yes; Rev. Smith, yes; Mr. Fultz, yes; Mr. Moeddel, yes. The Commission came out of Executive Session and the General Session resumed.

#### Personnel Action – Search for New Director of Cincinnati Recreation Commission

Ms. Driehaus advised that she has talked to a number of people and has decided that we need to do a national search for a new director. We have received reports from three different groups and after much consideration Mr. Driehaus recommends the Par Group, Public Management Consultants. The three groups were comparable, but the Par Group was considerably less expensive. We need to enter into a contract with this group to get the process started. In order to get the process started, Chris Bigham presented the Commission members with a contract that is substantially similar to the signed agreement for their review.

Rev. Smith moved, seconded by Mr. Moeddel, to approve the contract that is substantially similar to the signed agreement in order to expedite the process.

Motion passed.

#### COMMISSION MEETING

The next meeting of the Public Recreation Commission will be held on Tuesday, February 20, 2007 at 4:00pm at the Recreation Commission Main Office Boardroom.

Meeting Adjourned.

---

Denise M. Driehaus

---

Michael A. Thomas

/kss